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Millinery Millinery

Our trimmer, Mrs. H. M. Smith, has just returned from the city and is prepared to furnish our customers with the latest and most beautiful designs in headwear to be found. We have

Bought Heavily in this Line

and with an expert milliner like Mrs. Smith to do the trimming, we feel sure of being able to please our customers. Come in and see!

Spring Dress Goods

All of the latest as well as the best in Spring Dress Goods may be found in the new Stock we have just received. See the beautiful patterns before the stock is picked over.

Shoes and Slippers

We can comfortably fit your foot and pocket-book as well as please the most exacting dresser in Shoes or Slippers. This is the banner stock in this line to be found in the county and we are prepared to satisfy your needs.

Yours for business,

Taylor Mercantile Co.,

Marble Hill, Missouri

Southeast News.

Fredericktown is to have a new passenger depot—the contract for the building has been let and construction work is to begin in a short time.

From reports, Scott county is making preparations to spend \$950,000 in road improvements and the people there expect to have the best roads in this part of the state.

The \$200,000 bond issue voted by the citizens of Wayne county last April were sold recently and, according to the papers over there, the money is to be paid by May 1, when that sum will be available for road improvement purposes.

Fredericktown Democrat-News.

The machinery is just about all ready for business at the Schulte Mines. The engines, boiler, air compressor, pumps, jack hammers etc., will be started not later than the first of next week. The shaft is now down a little over 100 feet and as soon as the power is turned on, much more rapid progress may be expected.

Wayne County Journal.

The committee appointed by the county court to act as agent for the negotiation of the sale of the \$200,000 road bonds of the county, has advertised that bids for the bonds will be accepted until noon of March 17. It is said that several bonding companies have signified their intention of bidding on the bonds and there seems to be no question but that the bonds will bring par. In that case the county will immediately have a working capital of \$200,000 for good roads purposes. This sum will probably be augmented during the next two or three years by not less than \$75,000, this county's apportionment from the state and federal funds, provided for by the Hawes road bill recently passed by the legislature.

Illmo Jimplicite.

Developments that have come to light this week appears to make the building of Iron Mountain terminals

in this city a certainty and that the Iron Mountain will build a line from this city to Delta to connect with the Belmont branch of this road. The break between the Iron Mountain and Cotton Belt is widening every day. Should this line be put in, the Belmont branch would be used from Delta to Poplar Bluff via Charleston. It is also reported that the Iron Mountain will soon inaugurate a through passenger train between Chicago and San Antonio, using the rails of the C & E. I. from Thebes to Chicago and coming and going by way of Illinois. That many changes of importance are now under way cannot be doubted.

Sikeston Herald.

H. B. Derr, Scott county's agricultural agent, says he has examined many fields of growing wheat and finds the damage done by the recent winds and freezes to be much less than is reported by many others. He thinks that it will require several warm days to make conditions such that an estimate can intelligently be made, but, from present indications, he estimates that this section will have from two-thirds to three-fourths a normal crop. Last year's crop did not go beyond half a normal crop, if indeed it reached that point. As last year, the greatest damage has been done to hill fields. Last year many wheat fields on hill farms had very poor crops and some were not cut. It is expected that the 1917 crop generally will be considerably ahead of that of last year. Many fields of wheat appear to be dead, due to the cold weather of last month, coming as it did when the fields were bare. Two or three very windy days also proved hard on the wheat fields. Just the full extent of the damage done can not now be told with any degree of accuracy.

Sikeston Herald.

The country east of Matthews and south to New Madrid is being flooded by waters of the Mississippi backing up through the three-mile gap in the levee near New Madrid, and

many farmers are moving out of their homes in this section temporarily. As yet the situation is not dangerous and is only a recurrence of what happens nearly every spring in this section, and will continue to happen until this gap in the levee is completed. Parties who came up from the section of country east of Matthews yesterday stated that on Monday the water was eight inches above normal. During the next twenty-four hours it fell two inches, but has been rising quite rapidly since. At noon yesterday the stage of the river at Cairo was 46 feet, but it had been as high as 49 feet during the earlier part of the week. The lowest point at which that place will be affected will be 53.4 feet. When that point is reached it will probably be necessary to suspend the interurban traffic between Cairo and Mount City.

Call Buried With Masonic Honors

W. T. Singleton of Spring Lake, Texas, last week wrote to his father, Judge A. E. Singleton, of this city, telling him an unusually strange story as to how one of his calves was recently buried with Masonic honors. The story runs as follows:

On the night before the election in November a home where a hired man and his family lived, burned. After the fire the mother of the home reported that her husband ran into the burning house, when a gasoline can exploded and set fire to him and he was burned and lay with the ruins. Good neighbors picked up a few bones, which were supposed to have belonged to the man, and buried them with Masonic honors.

Neighbors made up a sum amounting to about \$400 and gave to the destitute family. Afterwards it was learned that the man was insured for \$7500, which amount doubled in case of such an accident. The local insurance agent received the check for full amount from the company, but before making a settlement an investigation started which was later taken up by the grand jury. The supposed widow was brought before that body and when strongly questioned, confessed that they had killed a calf and dressed it for the occasion and it was really a calf belonging to Mr. Singleton that went up in the smoke and was buried by the Masons instead of the body of her husband. The wife wrote a letter to her husband which was followed by the sheriff, who captured the man. He pleaded guilty and was sentenced to eight years in the penitentiary for arson and was also indicted for calf theft.

The calf was about three months old and the parties cut off its head and skinned it. The hide and head were buried and when dug up the identification was easy as it bore the brand used by Mr. Singleton—Shelbyville Herald.

At Rest

Mrs. Lizzie Robins, beloved wife of Marvin Robins of Shrum, Mo., departed this life March 21, 1917, of spinal meningitis.

She was born January 12, 1888, aged 28 years, 2 months and 9 days. Her husband, five children, aged 2 to 8 years; a brother, Henry J. Long, a sister, Mrs. Effie Abernathy, grandmother, Betsy Long all of St. Louis; a sister, Mrs. Edith Lincoln of Cape Girardeau, also her foster parents, Mr. and Mrs. Jacob Ridings of Shrum.

She was a member of the Salem Missionary Baptist church, having professed faith in Christ in 1914. Before she died, she said she was prepared to meet God.

The remains were interred in the Mt. Carmel cemetery March 22. The bereaved family have the sympathy of the entire community.

A RELATIVE.

We Talk of the Flag

"Tell me about the flag," he said, as I was entering his room. "And why men wave their hats and cheer?"

"Whenever it is flying high!"

"And so the people understand then to talk about the time when men were facing cannon shot and shell to serve the flag we love so well."

I told him of the men who died in frozen mud and earthquake long years ago in battle with To keep a flag like that for him, I told him all about the war.

The speaker sat in his armchair, and when they were alone and what they thought.

As bitterly they did not forget.

"Let me tell you a story now. That nothing to the flag you see. Let me tell you that it means. But pleasant days and peaceful scenes, And never was so much a land. Where death stands on every hand, Because we are that flag will fly. When men for it believe to die."

"And it may be," said I, "that you must some day serve that banner too. And then if such a day should come That would mean the ending of your life. And how much more the martial life. Be not a slave to peaceful life." As they were men, you know men. And give their flag the best you can."

—Marble Hill Press.

In Regard to the State School Money for 1917

That school authorities in Missouri may know the effect of the action of the present legislature in taking the school aid money granted to certain schools out of the school fund instead of out of the general revenue fund, I submit the following statement:

According to the records of the office of the state auditor, the total amount of money on hand March 1, 1916, in the credit of the "Public School Fund" was \$1,007,908.64. On March 1, 1917, there was \$1,717,467.41. Of this latter sum \$724,929.71 was married on the state treasurer's books to the credit of the Public School Fund. The balance is in the general revenue fund, but will be transferred to the school fund as soon as Gov. Gardner signs the appropriation bill. The transfer was made earlier last year because it was authorized by the appropriation of 1915. Therefore, there is now \$679,529.77 more to the credit of the school fund than there was a year ago.

The following items (all of them public-school expenditures) formerly charged against the general revenue fund, are now to be charged against the public-school fund: For rural high schools \$27,000; for timber-tracting high schools \$175,000; for aid to maintain an academy of eighty superintendents \$91,200; for teacher-training schools in the cities \$60,000; new (ten this year). Total \$561,200 for the biennial period, or not in excess of \$275,600 for this year.

Taking this \$275,600 from the present account of \$679,529.77 leaves \$403,929.77 more to the public schools in 1917 than they received in 1916, provided the public school for the next four months equal the receipts for the same four months in 1916.

But these figures do not take into consideration any increase in the school fund because of the increased state revenues. For example, the collateral inheritance tax which formerly went to the university, will now go into the general revenue fund, and the public schools will receive at least \$150,000 this year and annually hereafter from that source. In addition the other revenue measures of the Gardner program will yield increased allotments to the public schools. In fact, as one third was given to the schools, it was necessary to raise \$3 to \$2 for other state purposes. Including the new revenue, the lowest estimate is that the public schools will receive \$1,000,000 more from the state during the biennial period, than they have ever received during any previous biennial period, even after the special aids, above noted, are paid out of it.

There is no disposition anywhere to reduce the amount of money going from the state to the public schools. One third of the revenues, increased as they will be, will still go to them. Out of the two-thirds the state must run the state government, take care of its insane, its feeble minded and its other charges, must provide for the penal institutions, must support its higher educational institutions, must aid in road building and in the development of agriculture, and must meet many other demands upon it. The special school aids should come out of the one-third which goes to schools. Even with these items charged against it, the allotment will increase from year to year.

I am sending this statement for the

information of school officials who are preparing their budgets for the next year and that they may not be misled by false report, but that they may know the facts. It would be well for local newspapers to make such use of it as would correct any false impressions regarding the school funds.

Very truly yours,

Wm. W. LAMKEN,
State Supt. of Public Schools.

Sparks From Man's Body Causes Garage Fire

When a resident of DeBary, Iowa, wearing a fur coat and rubber boots walked hurriedly to his garage on a cold morning recently, he did not realize that his movements were storing up a dangerous amount of electricity in his body. But the fact was that the friction of his arms against the coat caused a certain amount of static electricity to be generated, and this was stored in the man's store, because it was insulated from the ground by his rubber boots. When he sought to "prime the motor" of his car with a mixture of gasoline and ether, using a metal squirt can—probably of copper, which is a good conductor of electrical current—the can was brought so close to the motor that a spark was produced between it and the priming cup, igniting the gasoline. The can exploded, throwing the flaming liquid over both man and car. The man escaped with severe burns, but the car and garage were completely destroyed. —Popular Mechanics Magazine.

Booze Maker Working Streets

Chas. Kenner, who for the past few months had been running a fruit store on Front street in Sikeston, was arrested by Chief of Police Forston the latter part of last week, charged with selling intoxicating liquor. Mr. Forston says that complaints had recently been filed with him that several men had been seen to emerge from Kenner's place of business in an intoxicated condition. After investigating the matter, the chief arrested Kenner, who on Monday pleaded guilty to Police Judge Parsons to the charge of selling liquor and was fined \$300 and costs. He is now serving on the street in proving squad and boarding at the city's expense.

Kenner did more than plead guilty to selling liquor. He also said the liquor was of his own manufacture and went so far as to tell how he made it. He said he made a mixture of grape wine and apple cider, half and half, then added sugar for taste and water for quantity—also profit. Just what sort of cider a drink of this mixture produced on the part of the consumer we have not learned, but it ought to brace him up for almost any effort.

Kenner says he has an invalid wife, also a daughter, living at St. Marys.—Sikeston Herald.

Fixing the Sheriff

Ephraim got into trouble in Waco county and beat the sheriff over the line by about three jumps. He migrated to a distant part of the state and seeking a livelihood, turned to preaching. He prospered in his new community which knew nothing of his past in Waco. Then, one night Ephraim looked from the platform into the eyes of a man in the front row. The new arrival was not a stranger. He was from Waco county. Ephraim led the singing and then the time for the preaching came. He mopped his brow and began: "Bredren, ah was goin' to preach dis evenin' on a text 'out er de Ol Testament. But it's done been put in mah min' to change. An' dis is de text 'now from Romans'—he pointed at the stranger with a meaning finger: "Ef yo' know me, doan' say nothin' an' Ah'll see vo' afterward!"—Ex.

An Indian mound near Wakenda is in danger of being scratched to pieces, says the Carrollton Republi-

can-Record. While out walking the other day Mr. and Mrs. Sam Hamblen sat down on the mound to rest. While sitting there Mrs. Hamblen picked up a stick and began to dig into the ground to see how far it was down to the frost. About three inches under the ground Mrs. Hamblen unearthed a man's gold finger ring. On the top part of the ring is the figure of an Indian pony. It is not known whether the ring once belonged to an Indian or to some pioneer white man.

Federal Aid Will Start New Road Building Plans

Long experience has shown that no comprehensive scheme of road construction can grow out of local interests or local initiatives.

The recent passage of a federal aid road law begins a plan that should have been started two generations ago. When we recall the vast area of land that the government has turned over to private enterprise for the construction of railroads we wonder at the slow and delayed appreciation of the need of public encouragement and support for the construction of highways to serve as feeders to these transcontinental lines.

The granting of vast areas of the public domain to private individuals to promote the development of new territory was fully justified in the minds of our early statesmen. Whether the same result might not have been attained at less cost to the nation, is a debatable question. Certainly no one in these days would recommend this method of support to develop a network of highways. Direct federal aid is now believed to be the better plan and the Shackleford bill furnishes the machinery for such aid. It is wisely planned that the support of the federal government shall be supplemented in equal measure by the individual states. This allows a flexibility demanded by the widely varied interests of different sections of the country and the state furnishes a proper unit of control. State legislation in turn, will be supplemented by an appeal to the similar unit, the county, and within the county, townships and districts may be further called upon for special contribution and support in accordance with local needs.

It is interesting and instructive to note that no state, having since started upon a road program, has ever taken a single backward step. Furthermore, in practically all cases the tendency is toward a more complete centralization of control within the state as a unit.

Those state highway commissioners are doing the best work who recognize the needs of local districts and who give these full consideration in the carrying out of more comprehensive schemes. A fully developed plan for the future should be upon a federal office of public roads, a state highway commission for every state, and an organization within these commissions that will be responsive to the local needs of every part of the state.

There was a gentleman at the Arcade Clothing store Saturday demonstrating a clever device for holding up your trousers without galluses. If old high price keeps on much longer we can keep ours up by hooking 'em over our hip bones. —Louisiana Times.

Chas. Malloy Wayland shipped Thursday to St. Louis a car of hogs and among the lot was one stag weighing 950 pounds, which sold for \$13.75 per hundred and brought \$118.25, which is claimed by the Live Stock Reporter to have brought more money than any hog ever sold on the market for butcher stock and was quite a show for the stock men in the stock yards.—St. Joseph Observer.